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Implementation of the Habitat Agenda and outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on this topic

Report of the Second Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Habitat Agenda and outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on this topic".

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 28th, 35th and 40th meetings, on 20 and 30 November and 12 December 2001. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/56/SR.28, 35 and 40). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, from 1 to 3 October (see A/C.2/56/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Commission on Human Settlements on its eighteenth session;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly, for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (A/56/477);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and function of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (A/56/618);

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/56/8).

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(d) Letter dated 24 July from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué and the Genoa Plan for Africa, adopted at the Summit of Heads of State and Governments of the Group of Eight, held at Genoa, Italy, from 20 to 22 July 2001 (A/56/222-S/2001/736);

(e) Letter dated 27 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/56/260);

(f) Letter dated 19 July 2001 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the Secretary-General (A/56/306);

(g) Letter dated 21 November 2001 from the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-fifth annual meeting, held at United Nations Headquarters on 16 November 2001 (A/56/647).

4. At the 28th meeting, on 20 November, the Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/56/SR.28).

5. A statement was also made by the representative of the International Labour Organization (see A/C.2/56/SR.28).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/56/L.39 and A/C.2/56/L.75

6. At the 35th meeting, on 30 November, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/56/L.39), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements, and the Habitat Agenda adopted in Istanbul in 1996,

"*Also recalling* the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly, on an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in New York from 6 to 8 June 2001,

"*Stressing* the importance of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, which was adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session,

"*Recognizing* the need for renewed political will for the mobilization and allocation of new and additional resources at the national and international levels in order to achieve full and accelerated implementation of the Habitat

Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

"*Reiterating* that strengthened international cooperation is essential for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

"*Recalling* the goal of improving the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full implementation by the international community of the commitments to support developing countries in their efforts to implement the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements, the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

"3. *Emphasizes* the importance of placing adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, as contained in the Habitat Agenda and in the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, particularly in developing countries, at the centre of policy-making at the national and international levels;

"4. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility, at the national level, for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and stresses that the international community should support Governments in their efforts through providing requisite means of implementation and through the creation of an international enabling environment;

"5. *Requests* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, programmes, funds and regional commissions, as well as the World Bank and regional development banks, consistent with their respective mandates, to fully support the effective implementation at the national level of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

"6. *Invites* all Habitat Agenda partners to contribute to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

"7. *Urges* the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to further strengthen the regional programme activity centres of the Centre in order to provide improved technical cooperation services to national Governments to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium at the national and local levels;

"8. *Invites* Governments and the Habitat Agenda partners, including local authorities, to facilitate the dissemination of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

"9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the Centre to ensure its participation in the International Conference on Financing for Development

and in the World Summit for Sustainable Development and their preparatory processes;

"10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled 'Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly', and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

7. At the 40th meeting, on 12 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Dharmansjah Djumala (Indonesia), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (subsequently issued as A/C.2/56/L.75),* which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.39.

8. At the same meeting, the representative of New Zealand orally corrected the draft resolution.

9. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.75, as orally corrected (see para. 16, draft resolution I).

10. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.75, draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.39 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/56/L.40 and A/C.2/56/L.76

11. At the 35th meeting, on 30 November, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)" (A/C.2/56/L.40), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* relevant resolutions on human settlements, in particular its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977 and 34/115 of 14 December 1979,

"*Recalling further* the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda,

"*Aware* of rapid urbanization trends in developing countries and associated new challenges in shelter provision, eradicating poverty and sustainable human settlements development,

"*Convinced* of the need for urgent action to advance the quality of life of all peoples in cities and other human settlements,

"*Conscious* of the need to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda within the United Nations system,

* The draft resolution was before the Committee in English only.

"*Recognizing* that urgent steps should be taken to ensure a better mobilization of financial resources at all levels, to enhance the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, particularly in developing countries with a view to improving the quality of life in human settlements,

"*Recalling*, inter alia, government commitments to promoting broad access to appropriate housing financing, to increasing the supply of affordable housing, and to creating an enabling environment for economic and social development that will attract investment,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which the Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed the designation of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) as a focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and called for a comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the Centre with a view to its revitalization,

"*Recalling further* its resolutions 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/242 of 28 July 1999 and 55/195 of 20 December 2000 in which it requested the Secretary-General to consider further strengthening the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) through the provision of the requisite support and stable, adequate and predictable financial resources, including additional regular budget and human resources,

"*Recalling* the agreed conclusions of the coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council of 2000,

"*Bearing in mind* Administrative Committee on Coordination decision 1983/12 of 22 October 1983, paragraphs 224 and 229 of the Habitat Agenda, paragraph 66 of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session, and conclusions of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2001, regarding improving inter-agency coordination in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

"*Recalling* the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, in particular, paragraph 67 inviting the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and function of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),

"*Encouraged* by the resumption of voluntary contributions by several Member States to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in response to the work undertaken by the management of Habitat to reverse the decline of the Centre and give it a new impetus to advance the Habitat Agenda under revitalization,

"*Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled 'Options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and function of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)', including their financial implications,

"I. United Nations Human Settlements Programme

"*Decides* to transform the Commission on Human Settlements and its Secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, including its Foundation, with effect from 1 January 2002, into the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, to be known as UN-Habitat, which will have the following elements:

"A

"Governing body

"Status, composition, objectives, functions and responsibilities

"1. *Decides* to transform, with effect from 1 January 2002, the Commission on Human Settlements into the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly;

"2. *Decides also* that the Governing Council shall be composed of 58 members to be elected by the General Assembly for four-year terms on the following basis:

"(a) Sixteen seats for African States;

"(b) Thirteen seats for Asian and Pacific States;

"(c) Six seats for Eastern European States;

"(d) Ten seats for Latin American and Caribbean States;

"(e) Thirteen seats for Western European States and others;

"3. *Confirms* that the Governing Council will have the objectives, functions and responsibilities as contained in paragraph 222 of the Habitat Agenda and paragraph 66 of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

"4. *Decides* that the Governing Council will be the sole intergovernmental body within the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for policy deliberation and decision-making on human settlements;

"5. *Decides also* that the Governing Council shall meet biennially and report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

"6. *Decides further* that the Committee of Permanent Representatives to Habitat will serve as the Governing Council's formal intersessional subsidiary body;

"B

"Secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

"1. *Decides* to transform, with effect from 1 January 2002, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) into the secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme. The UN-Habitat secretariat shall service the Governing Council and serve as the focal point for human settlements and for the coordination of human settlements activities within the United Nations system;

"2. *Decides also* that the UN-Habitat secretariat shall continue to be headed by an Executive Director at the level of Under-Secretary-General, to be elected by the General Assembly for a term of four years on nomination by the Secretary-General;

"3. *Confirms* that the secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, under the direction of the Executive Director, shall be entrusted, inter alia, with the responsibilities contained in paragraph 228 of the Habitat Agenda;

"4. *Affirms* that the Urban Forum and the advisory committee of local authorities, being advisory bodies to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, will only extend advice to the Executive Director and should not substitute for or interfere with any intergovernmental policy-making activities of the Governing Council;

"5. *Decides* that the resources for managing the Programme shall comprise the posts and budgetary resources of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements without prejudice to any additional regular budget or extrabudgetary resources that may become available;

"II. Financing of human settlements

"1. *Confirms* that the Executive Director of UN-Habitat shall be responsible for the management of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation with due regard to the terms of reference of the Foundation as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX);

"2. *Requests* the Executive Director to revitalize the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in order to achieve its primary objective of supporting shelter, related infrastructure development programmes and housing finance institutions and mechanisms in developing countries;

"3. *Invites* all Governments to increase their contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in order to enhance the capacity of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to support the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

"4. *Authorizes* the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to launch fresh fund-raising appeals and initiatives in order to substantially increase the Foundation's resources;

"5. *Calls* for the active participation and collaboration of the agencies and bodies within and outside the United Nation system and regional development banks in the activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and its Foundation, particularly with regard to the provision of seed capital and the financing of operational human settlements projects and programmes;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to support the United Nations Human Settlements Programme through the provision of adequate regular budget resources;

"III. Policy coordination

"1. *Reaffirms* that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions, including General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, together with the Governing Council, constitute the intergovernmental mechanism that will oversee the coordination of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

"2. *Emphasizes* the need to recognize the role and importance of shelter and sustainable human settlements in the activities and programmes of the United Nations system, particularly in the context of Common Country Assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Framework, as well as the poverty reduction strategy papers led by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund;

"3. *Decides* that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, as United Nations focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, will participate in the Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

"4. *Decides also* that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme should maintain linkage with the Commission on Sustainable Development in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda as it relates to sustainable development;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution."

12. At the 40th meeting, on 12 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Dharmansjah Djumala (Indonesia), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)" (subsequently issued as A/C.2/56/L.76),* which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.40.

13. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement on the conference servicing implications of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.76 (see A/C.2/56/SR.40).

14. A'so at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.76 (see para. 16, draft resolution II).

15. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.76, draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.40 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

16. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

* The draft resolution was before the Committee in English only.

Draft resolution I
Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda[2] and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[3] adopted in Istanbul in 1996,

Recalling also the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly, on an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in New York from 6 to 8 June 2001,[4]

Stressing the importance of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[5] which was adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session,

Recognizing the need for renewed political will and for the mobilization and allocation of new and additional resources at the national and international levels in order to achieve full and accelerated implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

Reiterating that strengthened international cooperation is an essential element for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[6] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020, as proposed in the "Cities without slums" initiative,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full implementation of all the commitments undertaken in the Habitat Agenda;[2]

3. *Emphasizes* the importance, at all levels of policy-making and in the context of sustainable development, of giving high priority to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[3] including achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, particularly in developing countries;

4. *Recognizes* that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points

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[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] Ibid., annex I.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-25/7/Rev.1).

[5] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[6] Resolution 55/2.

[7] A/56/477.

of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development;

5. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and stresses that the international community should fully implement its commitments to supporting Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, by providing the requisite means of implementation and through the creation of an international enabling environment;

6. *Requests* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, programmes, funds and regional commissions, as well as the World Bank and regional development banks, consistent with their respective mandates, to fully support the effective implementation at all levels of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

7. *Invites* local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to contribute to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and encourages them to participate, as appropriate, in the Urban Forum and the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, in their roles as advisory bodies to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, bearing in mind the decisions of the Commission on the establishment of those two bodies;

8. *Urges* the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to assess the role and funding of the regional programme activity centres of the Programme with a view to providing improved technical cooperation services to Governments to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium at all levels;

9. *Invites* Governments and the Habitat Agenda partners, including local authorities, to facilitate the dissemination of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

10. *Invites* the Executive Director of the Programme to transmit the outcomes of the relevant intergovernmental processes relating to sustainable human settlements development to the preparatory processes of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the relevant decisions of the preparatory processes of those two conferences;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution II
Strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling relevant resolutions on human settlements, in particular its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977 and 34/115 of 14 December 1979,

Recalling further the Habitat Agenda[8] and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements,[9]

Aware of rapid urbanization trends in developing countries and related challenges in shelter provision, eradicating poverty and sustainable human settlements development,

Convinced of the need for urgent action to advance the quality of life of all people in cities and other human settlements,

Conscious of the need to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda within the United Nations system,

Recognizing that urgent steps should be taken to ensure a better mobilization of financial resources at all levels, to enhance the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, particularly in developing countries, with a view to improving human settlements,

Recalling the commitments of Governments to, inter alia, promoting broad access to appropriate housing financing, increasing the supply of affordable housing and creating an enabling environment for sustainable development that will attract investment,

Recalling also its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it, inter alia, designated the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements as a focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and called for a comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the Centre with a view to its revitalization,

Recalling further its resolutions 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/242 of 28 July 1999 and 55/195 of 20 December 2000, in which it requested the Secretary-General to consider further strengthening the Centre through the provision of requisite support and stable, adequate and predictable financial resources, including additional regular budget and human resources,

Recalling agreed conclusions 2000/1 of the Economic and Social Council adopted at the coordination segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Council[10] and the conclusions of the Council at its substantive session of 2001

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[8] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[9] Ibid., annex I.

[10] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/55/3/Rev.1), chap. V, para. 6.

regarding improving inter-agency coordination in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Bearing in mind the responsibilities of the Centre, as set out in paragraph 228 of the Habitat Agenda, and the establishment of the Habitat task manager system,

Recalling the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[11] in particular paragraph 67 inviting the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and function of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, in accordance with relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),

Encouraged by the resumption by several Member States of voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in response to the work undertaken by the management of the Centre to revitalize the Centre and give it a new impetus to advance the Habitat Agenda,

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and function of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),[12] including their financial implications,

I. United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Decides to transform the Commission on Human Settlements and its secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, including the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, with effect from 1 January 2002, into the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, to be known as UN-Habitat, which will have the elements described below:

A
Governing body
Status, composition, objectives, functions and responsibilities

1. *Decides* to transform, with effect from 1 January 2002, the Commission on Human Settlements into the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, to be known as UN-Habitat, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly;

2. *Also decides* that the Governing Council shall propose its rules of procedure on the basis of the rules of procedure of the Commission on Human Settlements, bearing in mind the provisions of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly;[13]

3. *Further decides* that the practices regarding the participation of Habitat Agenda partners shall be according to the relevant rules of the Economic and Social Council with regard to participation and accreditation, that the established practices

[11] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[12] A/56/618.

[13] The first meeting of the Governing Council shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure and practices of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements.

of the Commission on Human Settlements shall be utilized and that such practices shall in no way create a precedent for other governing bodies of the subsidiary organs of the General Assembly;

4. *Decides* that the Governing Council shall be composed of fifty-eight members, to be elected by the Economic and Social Council for four-year terms on the following basis:[14]

(a) Sixteen seats for African States;

(b) Thirteen seats for Asian and Pacific States;

(c) Six seats for Eastern European States;

(d) Ten seats for Latin American and Caribbean States;

(e) Thirteen seats for Western European and other States;

5. *Confirms* that the Governing Council shall have the objectives, functions and responsibilities set out in General Assembly resolution 32/162 and in paragraph 222 of the Habitat Agenda;

6. *Decides* that the Governing Council shall be the intergovernmental decision-making body for the Programme;

7. *Also decides* that the Governing Council shall meet biennially and report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

8. *Further decides* that the Committee of Permanent Representatives to Habitat shall serve as the Governing Council's intersessional subsidiary body;

B

Secretariat of the Programme

1. *Decides* to transform, with effect from 1 January 2002, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements into the secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and confirms that the secretariat of the Programme, under the direction of the Executive Director, shall be entrusted with the responsibilities set out in paragraph 228 of the Habitat Agenda and in General Assembly resolution 32/162. The UN-Habitat secretariat shall service the Governing Council and serve as the focal point for human settlements and for the coordination of human settlements activities within the United Nations system;

2. *Also decides*, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, that the UN-Habitat secretariat shall be headed by an Executive Director at the level of Under-Secretary-General, to be elected by the General Assembly for a term of four years upon nomination by the Secretary-General after consultation with Member States;[15]

3. *Affirms* that the Urban Forum is a non-legislative technical forum in which experts can exchange views in the years when the Governing Council does

[14] Existing members of the Commission on Human Settlements shall continue as members of the Governing Council until the expiration of their original terms.

[15] The current Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements shall continue as the Executive Director of UN-Habitat until the expiration of her original term.

not meet, and that the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities is an advisory body to the Executive Director;

4. *Decides* that the resources for managing the Programme shall comprise the posts and budgetary resources of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, without prejudice to additional regular budget and extrabudgetary resources that may become available;

II. Financing human settlements

1. *Confirms* that the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme shall be responsible for the management of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, with due regard to the terms of reference of the Foundation as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX);

2. *Encourages* the Executive Director to strengthen the Foundation in order to achieve its primary operative objective, as set out in General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX), in supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including supporting shelter, related infrastructure development programmes and housing finance institutions and mechanisms, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Invites* all Governments to increase their contributions to the Foundation to enhance the capacity of the Programme to support the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

4. *Encourages* the Executive Director of the Programme to continue her fund-raising appeals and initiatives for a substantial increase of Foundation resources;

5. *Calls* for the active participation and collaboration of organizations and bodies within and outside the United Nations system, including the World Bank and regional development banks, in the activities of the Programme and its Foundation, in particular with regard to the provision of seed capital and the financing of operational human settlements projects and programmes, as well as developing appropriate and innovative approaches for financing its projects and programmes;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to support the Programme through the provision of adequate regular budget resources;

III. Policy coordination

1. *Reaffirms* that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions, including General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, together with the Governing Council of the United Nations Settlements Programme, constitute the three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism to oversee the coordination of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

2. *Emphasizes* the role and importance of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in particular achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements, in the activities and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular in the context of common country assessments and the United Nations

Development Assistance Framework, as well as the poverty reduction strategy papers process led by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund;

3. *Welcomes* the fact that the Programme, as the United Nations focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, will participate in the Chief Executives Board of the United Nations System for Coordination at all levels of its machinery;

4. *Also decides* that the Programme should strengthen its collaboration with the Commission on Sustainable Development and other relevant bodies in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda as it relates to sustainable development;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Jana **Simonová** (Czech Republic)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 11th to 13th and 39th meetings, on 12 and 22 October and on 11 December 2001. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/56/SR.11-13 and 39). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, from 1 to 3 October (see A/C.2/56/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) (A/56/229 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006): activities of the United Nations system in support of national efforts (A/56/229/Add.1);

(c) Letter dated 24 July 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué and the Genoa Plan for Africa, adopted at the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of Eight, held at Genoa, Italy, from 20 to 22 July 2001 (A/56/222-S/2001/736);

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(d) Letter dated 27 July from the Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/56/260);

(e) Letter dated 19 July 2001 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the Secretary-General (A/56/306);

(f) Letter dated 21 November 2001 from the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at the twenty-fifth annual meeting, held at United Nations Headquarters on 16 November 2001 (A/56/647);

(g) Letter dated 22 October 2001 from the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/56/3).

4. At the 11th meeting, on 12 October, an introductory statement was made by the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (see A/C.2/56/SR.12).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/56/L. 5 and A/C.2/56/L. 61

5. At the 13th meeting, on 22 October, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the establishment of the World Solidarity Fund for poverty eradication" (A/C.2/56/L.5), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 50/107 of 20 December 1995, on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), as well as the declarations and programmes of action of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s as they relate to the eradication of poverty,

"*Recalling further* its resolution 55/210 of 20 December 2000, entitled 'Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication', in which it welcomed favourably the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication,

"*Expressing its deep concern* that the number of people living in extreme poverty continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular in African countries and the least developed countries,

"*Recognizing* that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized and others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, resulting in increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

"*Recognizing also* that, for the poverty eradication strategy to be effective, it is imperative for developing countries to be fully integrated into the world economy in order to have an equitable share of the benefits of globalization,

"*Bearing in mind* the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, entitled 'World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world', held at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000, as well as the objectives of the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996,

"*Bearing in mind* also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit, particularly section III, 'Development and poverty eradication', and its emphasis on solidarity as a fundamental value in international relations in the twenty-first century,

"*Recalling* the commitment made by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit to eradicate extreme poverty, in particular the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

"*Recognizing* that, while it is the primary responsibility of States to attain social development, the international community should support the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty and to ensure basic social protection,

"*Recognizing also* that despite the best efforts of developing countries to achieve the development and poverty eradication goals as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the cooperation and assistance of the international community, including through the mobilization of resources from all sources as well as an enabling international environment, remain essential for the attainment of these goals,

"*Expressing concern* over the slowdown in the major economies and its adverse impact on the economies of developing countries, which hinders the realization of agreed development goals, in particular poverty eradication,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,

"1. *Stresses* that the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty should contribute to achieving the targets of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, through decisive national action and strengthened international cooperation;

"2. *Stresses also* the need to join efforts to build a more inclusive, equitable and stable global economic system, with the full participation of developing countries, so as to achieve the development and poverty eradication goals as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

"3. *Calls* for strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments adopted at the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since 1990, as well as the United Nations Millennium Declaration, as they relate to the eradication of poverty, with a view to achieving tangible results;

"4. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity of meeting the basic needs of all, and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role in the eradication of poverty of strong and sustained economic growth that favours the poor, creates substantive expansion in productive opportunities and employment, increases incomes, promotes equitable income distribution and minimizes environmental degradation;

"5. *Reaffirms* that the causes of poverty should be addressed in an integrated way, taking into account the importance of sectoral strategies in such areas as education, development of human resources, health, human settlements, rural development, productive employment, population, environment, fresh water, food security and migration, and the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and strengthen their assets so as to achieve social and economic development;

"6. *Welcomes* the holding of the International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, Mexico, in March 2002, and encourages Governments and stakeholders to take concrete initiatives in support of financing for development within the framework of the substantive agenda, namely, mobilizing domestic financial resources for development, mobilizing international private resources for development, foreign direct investment and other private flows, trade, increasing international financial cooperation for development through, inter alia, official development assistance, debt relief, addressing systemic issues, enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary financial and trading systems, and, in this regard, further emphasizes the importance of the above-mentioned agenda items for the full integration of developing countries into the global economy so as to achieve the goal of poverty eradication;

"7. *Also welcomes* the convening of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, as another important opportunity for a renewed commitment for the attainment of the international development goals and Agenda 21, which recognizes the importance of poverty eradication as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development;

"8. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries

with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

"9. *Emphasizes* the critical need for an equitable, rule-based, transparent, non-discriminatory and predictable multilateral trading system which contributes to the development of all countries, particularly developing countries;

"10. *Stresses* the critical role played by official development assistance in complementing domestic efforts to meet the development needs of developing countries and, in this regard, expresses its appreciation to the developed countries that have reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, and calls upon the developed countries that have not yet done so to commit themselves to achieving the agreed target and the target earmarking 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product as official development assistance for the least developed countries, as agreed, as soon as possible;

"11. *Welcomes* the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and urges the bilateral and multilateral creditors to take necessary measures to provide faster, deeper and broader debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries which will contribute to the eradication of poverty in a sustainable manner in those countries;

"12. *Stresses* the importance of continued flexibility with regard to eligibility criteria for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, in particular for countries in post-conflict situations;

"13. *Recognizes* that some highly indebted middle-income developing countries are facing serious difficulties in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, owing, inter alia, to liquidating constraints, which may require debt treatment, including debt reduction measures, and calls for concerted national and international action to address effectively their debt problems in order to expedite the release of resources for social development;

"14. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in this regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

"15. *Stresses* that the goal of halving extreme poverty by 2015 will not be achieved without serious efforts to address the needs of the least developed countries, and, in this regard, welcomes the adoption of the Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on

the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001, and calls on the international community, the United Nations system and multilateral organizations to implement fully the commitments undertaken in Brussels;

"16. *Emphasizes* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes the generation of production and self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support the development of microcredit institutions and their capacities, and calls upon the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions involved in the eradication of poverty, to support and explore the incorporation of the microcredit approach into their programmes and the further development, as appropriate, of other microfinance instruments;

"17. *Welcomes* the New African Initiative, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, whose objective is the eradication of poverty and the promotion of human development in Africa, and calls upon the developed countries and the United Nations system to support this Initiative and complement the efforts undertaken by Africa to overcome the challenges it faces;

"18. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, particularly basic education, and training, in particular for girls, in the empowerment of those living in poverty, and, in this context, welcomes the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum, including the reconfirmation of the mandate of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to coordinate Education For All partners and maintain their collective momentum, and invites the organs and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to continue to promote the inclusion of education in anti-poverty strategies;

"19. *Recalls* the commitments of the United Nations conferences and summits to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005 and to promote universal primary education in all countries by 2015, and, in this regard, urges Member States to take immediate measures to remove obstacles to young girls' school attendance and to reduce drop-out rates;

"20. *Reaffirms* the role of United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, in assisting the national efforts of developing countries, including in the eradication of poverty, and the need for their funding in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

"21. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations system to assign priority to the eradication of poverty and to enhance coordination, and, in this regard, encourages the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and other partners in development to continue to support all Member States in carrying forward their own strategy for the achievement of the objectives of the Decade;

"22. *Recognizes* the devastating effect of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemic on human development, economic growth and poverty reduction efforts in many countries, in particular sub-Saharan African countries, and urges Governments and the international community to give urgent priority to the HIV/AIDS crisis, in particular addressing the special needs of developing countries through strengthened cooperation and assistance as well as through the implementation of commitments undertaken, as agreed in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session in June 2001;

"23. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to support and participate in the global campaign for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels in order to ensure that the poverty reduction goal is realized for all countries, and also calls upon all donor countries to support the campaign and to strengthen the resources available to the United Nations in order to enhance its capacity to support and coordinate all those initiatives and to play its role of facilitator and advocate;

"24. *Decides* to establish the World Solidarity Fund for poverty eradication and the promotion of human and social development in developing countries and particularly the poorest segments of their populations;

"25. *Invites* all donor countries, organizations, institutions, foundations and all interested parties that are in a position to do so to contribute to the operations of the Fund;

"26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report with recommendations on the mechanisms and modalities for the operationalization of the Fund;

"27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the follow-up to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session a comprehensive report containing an evaluation of progress made towards achieving the goals of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), as well as in the achievement of the 2015 targets on poverty reduction, and recommendations for further action to achieve the 2015 targets, including the identification of resource requirements and possible sources of funding;

"28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled 'Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)'."

6. At the 39th meeting, on 11 December, the Vice-Chairman, Dharmansjah Djumala (Indonesia), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication" (A/C.2/56/L.61), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.5.

7. At the same meeting, before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.2/56/SR.39).

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.61 (see para. 9).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.61, draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.5 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

Recalling also its resolution 50/107 of 20 December 1995 on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), as well as the declarations and programmes of action of the major United Nations conferences and summits, their follow-up and the need for their implementation, as they relate to the eradication of poverty,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,

Recalling its resolution 55/210 of 20 December 2000, entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication",

Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty in many countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular in African countries and the least developed countries,

Recognizing that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized and others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, resulting in increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

Recognizing also that for the poverty eradication strategy to be effective it is imperative for developing countries to be integrated into the world economy and equitably share the benefits of globalization,

[1] See resolution 55/2.

Recalling the commitment made by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit to eradicate extreme poverty, in particular the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Bearing in mind the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development,[2] the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and the Political Declaration[4] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000, as well as the objectives of the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996,

Recognizing that, while it is the primary responsibility of States to attain economic and social development and to achieve the development and poverty eradication goals as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the international community should support the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty and ensure basic social protection and to promote an enabling international environment,

Expressing concern at the recent economic slowdown, particularly its adverse impact on the economies of developing countries, which could hinder the realization of agreed development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[5]

1. *Stresses* that the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty should contribute to achieving the targets of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, through decisive national action and strengthened international cooperation;

2. *Reaffirms*, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country, and that it also depends on good governance at the international level, on transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and on commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

3. *Recognizes* that success in meeting the objectives of poverty eradication requires an enabling environment that encourages, inter alia, sustainable development, including economic growth that favour the poor, and that upholds human rights, including the right to development, democratic principles and the rule of law, at all levels;

4. *Also recognizes* the responsibilities of Governments to adopt policies aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices at the national and international levels;

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[2] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Resolution S-24/2, annex, sect. I.

[5] A/56/229 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

5. *Calls upon* all countries to formulate and implement outcome-oriented national strategies and programmes, setting time-bound targets for poverty reduction, including the target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty, which requires strengthening of national action and international cooperation;

6. *Calls* for strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the United Nations Millennium Declaration, as well as the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments adopted at the major United Nations conferences and summits and their follow-up as they relate to the eradication of poverty, with a view to achieving tangible results;

7. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity of meeting the basic needs of all, and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role in the eradication of poverty of strong and sustained economic growth that favours the poor, creates substantive expansion in productive opportunities and employment, increases incomes, promotes equitable income distribution and minimizes environmental degradation;

8. *Also stresses* the importance of increasing access to and control over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections, by the poor, in particular women, and of improving access for all to basic social services;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of appropriate policy responses to the challenges of globalization at the national level, in particular by pursuing sound and stable domestic policies, including sound macroeconomic and social policies, inter alia, those contributing to increased income of the poor, in order to realize the objective of the eradication of poverty;

10. *Urges* the strengthening of international assistance to developing countries in their efforts to alleviate poverty, inter alia, by creating an enabling environment that would facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, improving their market access, facilitating the flow of financial resources and implementing fully and effectively all initiatives already launched regarding debt relief for developing countries, and emphasizes that the international community should consider further measures that would lead to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries so that they can share equally in the benefits of globalization, cope with its negative effects, avoid being marginalized in the process of globalization and achieve full integration into the world economy;

11. *Reaffirms* that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, fostering, inter alia, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, thus empowering them to participate in decision-making with regard to the policies that affect them, the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development, bearing in mind the relationship between all human rights and development, and an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration;

12. *Recognizes* that the eradication of poverty and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing;

13. *Reaffirms* that the causes of poverty should be addressed in an integrated way, taking into account the importance of the need for the empowerment of women and sectoral strategies in such areas as education, development of human resources, health, human settlements, rural development, productive employment, population, environment, freshwater, food security and migration, and the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, and in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and strengthen their assets so as to achieve social and economic development; and in this regard encourages countries to develop their national poverty reduction policies in accordance with their national priorities including, where appropriate, through Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers;

14. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations system to assign priority to the eradication of poverty and to enhance coordination, and, in this regard, encourages the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and other partners in development to continue to support all Member States, members of specialized agencies and United Nations observers in carrying forward their own strategy for the achievement of the objectives of the Decade;

15. *Also welcomes* the holding of the International Conference on Financing for Development at Monterrey, Mexico, in March 2002, and encourages Governments and stakeholders to take concrete initiatives and actions in support of financing for development;

16. *Further welcomes* the convening of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, as a significant opportunity to renew our commitment to sustainable development, the international development goals, Agenda 21,[6] and the principles contained in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;[7]

17. *Notes* the outcome of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001;[8]

18. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

19. *Also recognizes* the critical need for countries to undertake economic, institutional and regulatory reforms to support wide trade liberalization and to create an enabling environment in which trade can truly serve as an engine for economic growth and development and, in this regard, calls upon the international community to continue to support the capacity-building efforts of developing countries, taking into account their national circumstances;

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[6] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[7] Ibid., annex I.

[8] See A/C.2/56/7.

20. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and the international level, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the developed countries that have agreed to and have reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, and calls upon the developed countries that have not yet done so to strengthen their efforts to achieve the agreed target as soon as possible and, where agreed, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product for the least developed countries;

22. *Stresses* the important role played by official development assistance in complementing domestic efforts to meet the development needs of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and, in this regard, acknowledges the official development assistance made available to developing countries and the efforts that developing countries have made to eradicate poverty;

23. *Calls* for the full, speedy and effective implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and, in this regard, stresses the need for the donor community to provide the additional resources necessary to fulfil the future financial requirements of the Initiative, hence welcomes the agreement that financing for heavily indebted poor countries should be reviewed analytically and separately from International Development Association replenishment requirements but immediately after meetings for the thirteenth replenishment of the Association, and calls upon all donors to participate fully in this process;

24. *Calls upon* the heavily indebted poor countries to take, as soon as possible, the policy measures necessary to become eligible for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and to reach the decision point;

25. *Welcomes* the recognition by the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries of the need to take into account worsening global growth prospects and declines in terms of trade, when updating Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative debt sustainability analysis at completion point;[9]

26. *Recognizes* the difficulties of heavily indebted middle-income developing countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, inter alia, of greater liquidity constraints, which may require debt treatment through various national and international measures designed to assist those countries in making their debt burden sustainable in the long term and in combating poverty effectively;

27. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential

[9] Communiqué of the Joint Ministerial Committee at its sixty-fourth meeting, held at Ottawa on 18 November 2001, para. 8.

terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in this regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

28. *Stresses* that the goal of halving extreme poverty by 2015 will not be achieved without serious efforts to address the development needs of the least developed countries and to support their efforts in improving the lives of their people, and, in this regard, welcomes the adoption of the Brussels Declaration[10] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[11] adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001, and calls on the national Governments of the least developed countries and their development partners to implement fully the commitments undertaken in Brussels;

29. *Emphasizes* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes the generation of production and self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support microcredit schemes and the development of microfinance institutions and their capacities, and calls upon the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions involved in the eradication of poverty, to support and explore the incorporation of the microcredit approach into their programmes and the further development, as appropriate, of other microfinance instruments;

30. *Welcomes* the New Partnership for Africa's Development launched at Abuja in October 2001, whose objectives are, inter alia, to promote sustained economic growth and development, including human development, so as to eradicate poverty in Africa on the basis of African leadership and enhanced partnership with the international community, and calls upon the developed countries and the United Nations system to support this partnership and complement the efforts undertaken by Africa to overcome the challenges it faces;

31. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, particularly basic education, and training, in particular for girls, in the empowerment of those living in poverty, and, in this context, welcomes the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[12] as well as the strategy for poverty eradication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[13] and invites the organs and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to continue to promote the inclusion of education in anti-poverty strategies;

32. *Recalls* the commitments of the United Nations conferences and summits to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005 and to

[10] A/CONF.191/12.

[11] A/CONF.191/11.

[12] See *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000* (Paris, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 2000).

[13] Adopted at the thirty-first session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001.

promote universal primary education in all countries by 2015, and, in this regard, urges Member States to take immediate measures to remove obstacles to young girls' school attendance and to reduce drop-out rates;

33. *Reaffirms* the role of United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, in assisting the national efforts of developing countries, inter alia, in the eradication of poverty, and the need for their funding in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

34. *Reaffirms* the importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment of interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes, and welcomes the efforts made to implement the 20/20 initiative, which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

35. *Recognizes* the devastating effect of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemic on human development, economic growth and poverty reduction efforts in many countries, in particular sub-Saharan African countries, and urges Governments and the international community to give urgent priority to the HIV/AIDS crisis, in particular addressing the special needs of developing countries through strengthened cooperation and assistance as well as through the implementation of commitments undertaken, as agreed in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[14] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session in June 2001;

36. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to support and participate in the global efforts for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels in order to ensure that the development and poverty reduction goals, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, are realized, and also calls upon the international community to support these efforts and to strengthen the resources available to the United Nations in order to enhance its capacity to support and coordinate all relevant initiatives in this regard and play its role of facilitator and advocate;

37. *Encourages* the continuing examination in all relevant intergovernmental forums of ways and means to integrate poverty reduction objectives and strategies into discussions on international financial and development issues;

38. *Welcomes favourably* the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication and the promotion of human and social development in developing countries, in particular among the poorest segments of their population;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with a view to establishing the fund, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report containing his recommendations on mechanisms, modalities, terms of reference, mandates and governance for the operationalization of the fund, bearing in mind the voluntary nature of contributions from Member States, international organizations, the private sector, relevant institutions, foundations and individuals and the need to avoid duplication of existing United Nations funds;

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[14] See resolution S-26/2, annex.

40. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the follow-up to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a comprehensive report containing an evaluation of progress made towards achieving the goals of the Decade, including best practices, lessons learned and obstacles, as well as in the achievement of the 2015 targets for poverty reduction, and recommendations for further action to achieve the 2015 targets, including the identification of resource requirements and possible sources of funding;

41. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)".

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Training and research

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Jana **Simonová** (Czech Republic)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Training and research" (see A/C.2/56/1).

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 30th, 33rd and 40th meetings, on 21 and 28 November and 12 December 2001. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/56/SR.30, 33 and 40). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, from 1 to 3 October (see A/C.2/56/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/56/615).

4. At the 30th meeting, on 21 November, introductory statements were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the Chief of the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management (see A/C.2/56/SR.30).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/56/L.30 and A/C.2/56/L.68

5. At the 33rd meeting, on 28 November, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Institute for Training and Research" (A/C.2/56/L.30), which read:

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"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999 and 55/208 of 20 December 2000,

"*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,

"*Welcoming* the recent progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

"*Expressing its appreciation* to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

"*Noting with concern* that while the participation of the developed countries in training programmes in New York and Geneva is increasing, their contributions to the General Fund of the Institute have not increased,

"*Noting* that the bulk of the resources contributed to the Institute are directed to the Special Purpose Grants Fund rather than to the General Fund, and stressing the need to address that unbalanced situation,

"*Noting also* that the Institute receives no subsidy from the United Nations regular budget, that it provides training programmes to all Member States free of charge and that similar United Nations institutions based at Geneva are not charged rent or maintenance costs,

"*Welcoming* the decisions taken by the Secretary-General to ensure continuity in the management of the Institute and to establish the proper grade for the post of Executive Director with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

"*Reiterating* that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

"1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated, United Nations system-wide approach to research and training based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of labour among the relevant institutions and bodies;

"2. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and the relevance of training-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

"3. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to strengthen further its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

"4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other agencies and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and, in this context, underlines the need

to develop further and to expand the scope of these partnerships, in particular at the country level;

"5. *Requests* the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to continue to ensure fair geographical distribution and transparency in the preparation of the programmes and in the employment of experts, and, in this regard, stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus on development issues, particularly on trade;

"6. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

"7. *Calls upon* developed countries, which are increasingly participating in the training programmes conducted in New York and Geneva, to make contributions or consider increasing their contributions to the General Fund;

"8. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue its efforts to resolve the critical financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base and increasing the contributions made to the General Fund;

"9. *Also encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider diversifying further the venues of the events organized by the Institute and to include the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and reduce costs;

"10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute and United Nations funds and programmes, to continue to explore ways and means of systematically utilizing the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes for the economic and social development of developing countries;

"11. *Decides*, in relation to its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, to reclassify the rental rates and maintenance costs charged to the Institute with a view to alleviating its current financial difficulties, which are aggravated by the current practice of charging commercial rates, taking into account that other organizations affiliated with the United Nations enjoy such privileges;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in furtherance of the decision made in paragraph 11 above, to amend article VIII, paragraph 13, of the statute of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research accordingly;

"13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the impact of restructuring and revitalization on the efficiency of the Institute as well as further details on the status of contributions to and the financial situation of the Institute."

6. At the 40th meeting, on 12 December, the Committee had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.30, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/56/L.55).

7. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Felix Mbayu (Cameroon) introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Institute for Training and Research" (A/C.2/56/L.68), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.30.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the statement of programme budget implications, as contained in document A/C.2/56/L.55, did not apply to draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.68. The Secretary of the Committee then read out a statement of programme budget implications pertaining to draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.68 (see A/C.2/56/SR.40).

9. Also at its 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.68 (see para. 11).

10. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.68, draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.30 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

11. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999 and 55/208 of 20 December 2000,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Welcoming the recent progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that contributions to the General Fund have not increased and that the participation of the developed countries in training programmes in New York and Geneva is increasing,

Noting also that the bulk of the resources contributed to the Institute are directed to the Special Purpose Grants Fund rather than to the General Fund, and stressing the need to address that unbalanced situation,

[1] A/56/615.

Noting further that the Institute receives no subsidy from the United Nations regular budget, that it provides training programmes to all Member States free of charge and that similar United Nations institutions based at Geneva are not charged rent or maintenance costs,

Welcoming the decisions taken by the Secretary-General to ensure continuity in the management of the Institute and to establish the proper grade for the post of Executive Director with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Reiterating that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated, United Nations system-wide approach to research and training based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of labour among the relevant institutions and bodies;

2. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and the relevance of training-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to strengthen further its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and, in this context, underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of these partnerships, in particular at the country level;

5. *Requests* the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to continue to ensure fair geographical distribution and transparency in the preparation of the programmes and in the employment of experts, and, in this regard, stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus primarily on development issues;

6. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

7. *Calls upon* developed countries, which are increasingly participating in the training programmes conducted in New York and Geneva, to make contributions or consider increasing their contributions to the General Fund;

8. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue its efforts to resolve the critical financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base and increasing the contributions made to the General Fund;

9. *Also encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider diversifying further the venues of the events organized by the Institute and to include the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and reduce costs;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute and United Nations funds and programmes, to continue to explore ways and means of systematically utilizing the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes for the economic and social development of developing countries;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to clarify the reason why the Institute does not benefit from rental rates and maintenance costs similar to those enjoyed by other United Nations-affiliated organizations, such as the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit proposals on how to waive or reduce the rental rates and maintenance costs charged to the Institute with a view to alleviating its current financial difficulties, which are aggravated by the current practice of charging commercial rates;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, including details on the status of contributions to, and the financial situation of, the Institute, as well as on the use of its services by Member States.